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ABSTRACT

This script, with music, lyrics and dialog, was written especially for youngsters to inform them of the potential dangers of various drugs. The author, who teaches in an elementary school in Harlem, New York, offers Miss Heroin as her answer to the expressed opinion that most drug and alcohol information available is either too simplified and boring or too complicated and dry. Miss Heroin is a musical play that youngsters can participate in, produce and present themselves, and, as such should be of interest to teachers, guidance personnel, youth group sponsors, and church groups. (Author/BMW)

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MISS HEROIN

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"A new kind of Musical"

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Book, Lyrics & Music by Bernice Riley

MISS HEROIN

By Bernice Snelson Riley
626 Riverside Drive NYC

A musical play about a teenager's dream of drugs that materialize. Twelve new dynamic hit songs that include Pop, Latin, Disco, Blues, Country, Spiritual and Gospel.

2 Acts, 11 Characters, 2 offstage voices

A CONCISE CHRONOLOGICAL SCENE BY SCENE SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Scene 1: "Johnny", a teenager of today, is sitting in the park studying. His friend, "Jimmy" leaves him a bottle of wine. Johnny drinks the wine, falls asleep and dreams of drugs that materialize.

Scene 2: "Al Cohol", a comic drunk, informs Johnny in a humorous way that he is the oldest and most abused of all drugs.

Scene 3: Johnny smokes a marijuana cigarette and "Reefers", a modern superfly, appears. Johnny tells him his frustrations in becoming a doctor.

Scene 4: Johnny takes lysergic acid diethylamide and "LSD", a flower-child, appears.and tries to take him on a 'trip' with her.

Scene 5: Johnny takes amphetamine and barbituate pills and "Uppers" and "Downers" appear. Uppers is an energetic, fast talking paranoid who is looking for his slow, sleepy brother, "Downers".

ACT II

Scene 1: Johnny snorts cocaine and "Cocaine", a rich attractive foreign woman, flatters Johnny and tells him of her former husbands.

Scene 2: Jimmy, who is now a junkie, introduces Johnny to a sexy, young prostitute.

Scene 3: Johnny meets "Miss Heroin" and finds himself falling for her devastating charms.

Scene 4: His girlfriend, "Mary" tries unsuccessfully to convince Johnny to quit Miss Heroin.

Scene 5: Johnny robs and kills to get money for Miss Heroin. When he realizes she will never be satisfied, he tries to quit her but discovers he is hooked.

Scene 6: Johnny's mother, "Ma", wakes him and they discuss his dream.

A Dramatist Guild Member

* * * MISS HEROIN * * *

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- CAST -

JOHNNY	A clean-cut teenage boy.	(Sings Country-Western) I'M JUST A COUNTRY BOY THE BEST ACTOR OF THE YEAR
MISS HEROIN	A sexy young prostitute.	(Sings and/or dances Disco) MISS HEROIN
AL COHOL	A comic drunk, male	(Sings & dances softshoe) AL COHOL
REEFERS	A male superfly.	(Dances and/or sings Disco) THE BOOGIE MAN'LL GET CHA
LSD	A male or female flowerchild	(Dances and/or sings interpretive) A TRIP TO NOWHERE
UPPERS	A thin, energetic, fast-talking male or female.	(Sings duet with Downers) TOGETHERNESS
DOWNERS	A plump, sleepy, slow male	(Sings duet with Uppers) TOGETHERNESS
COCAINE	A rich, attractive female	(Dances and/or sings Latin) BOOM CHICA BOOGIE
JIMMY	A clean-cut teenage boy	(Sings Blues) LOVE CAN BE A HURTIN' THING
MARY	A teenage girl	(Sings Spiritual) SOMEBODY'S LOOKING
MA	An older woman	(Sings Gospel) GOD SHOWS ME THE WAY
ALL DRUGS		(Sing Pop) YOU GOTTA BELIEVE
JOHNNY, JIMMY, MARY & MA		(Sing Pop) YOU GOTTA BELIEVE

Act 1
(Scene 1)
(The local park)

(Johnny is sitting on a park bench studying. He has his books and an apple. He is dressed in dungarees, sweatshirt and sneakers. His friend, Jimmy, enters carrying a paper bag filled with a bottle of wine, a container of orange juice, a sugar cube, a paper cup, a long thin cigarette, two brightly colored pills, and a small glassine envelope.

JIMMY

Say, Johnny! What'cha doing sittin' here in the park? I thought you'd be over at the courtyard playin' basketball.

JOHNNY

I was too tired to play basketball today, Jimmy, so I decided to come here and study for a while.

JIMMY

You taking Mary to the party tonight, Johnny?

JOHNNY

Naw, I don't think so, Jimmy. I'm crazy about Mary, but she's such a square. She don't wanna try to drink an' smoke like the rest of us. All she thinks about is singing and school.

JIMMY

Yeah, I know what you mean. But don't worry, there'll be plenty of girls there who do everything!
Look, I brought us a bottle of wine and a few other things. I figured we may as well get started early.

VOICE CALLING OFFSTAGE

Jimmy!!! Jimmy, come over here, I want you to go to the store for me!

JIMMY

Oh, man!! Here comes my mother! She'll murder me if she catches me with this stuff!
Here!! You hold it!

(Jimmy shoves the bag in Johnny's hand and runs offstage. Johnny takes out the wine and drinks until he falls asleep. He wakes up upon hearing a loud popping sound and seeing a puff of smoke coming from backstage.)

(Scene 2)
(Mid 1920 background)
(Al Cohol is unshaven and wears an ill-fitting, crumpled ragged tuxedo outfit, top hat and cane.)

AL COHOL

(Singing backstage) How dry I am....hic!! How dry I am..
(Staggers onstage) No....bo...deee know...ooooos.....
how dry I....I.....(Takes the bottle from Johnny and drinks)
was!!!
Shay, buddy.....hic.....how's about a lil' drink?

JOHNNY

Sure...!!! Why not???
My name's Johnny, what's yours?

AL COHOL

Name's Al!! Al Cohol!!! They calls me 'Big Al'!!!
'Course I've been called a whole lotta other things!!
Whiskey...wine....even beer!! But Al Cohol is alcohol,
and by any other name.....'ll still get you drunk!!!
Hic....I bet you didn't know that a shot of whiskey,
a glass of wine, an' a bottle of beer....hic...all have
the shame amount of alcohol!! Hic!

JOHNNY

They do? I didn't know that!

AL COHOL

Thash alright.....there's a lotta things that folks
don't know 'bout ol' Al Cohol!
Shay, buddy....jus' how old do I look to you?

JOHNNY

Well,...hic....I'd say about fo...fi...sixty years old!!

AL COHOL

(Proudly) Hic....I'm over eight thousand years old!!!
I looks pretty good for my age, don't I??? Hic.....
Thash 'cause I'm well preserved!!!
I was the very first anna..sced..ick...hic...anna...
thed...scick.....anna...thread..slick..!!!
I was the very first a.....pain killer
known to man' Now Al Cohol is the number one drug
problem in the whole wide world!!
Number one!!! What'd'ya think o' that???

JOHNNY

I think that's...hic...fantastic!!!

AL COHOL

You bet your fat, round lil' ass.....perins!
Shay, buddy....y'know how many times I been around the
world???

JOHNNY

No, I don't, Al!

AL COHOL

You dunno??? Me neither! I stopped countin' three
thousand years ago!!!
Ever'body thinks I'm a social beverage!!!
Think o' that! Al Cohol.....a social butterfly!
Shhhhhh...they don't know I ain't nuttin' but a liquid
drug!! Hic...an' don't you tell 'em, 'cause thash how
I can change 'em and git ever'body to cussin' an' fussin'
an' fightin'!!
Glass shatterin'....chairs flyin'....men bleedin'.....
women screamin'! ZAP!!! BANG!!! CRASH!!! CRUNCH!!!
"Eeeeek!! Help, Police!!!"
(Imitates police car) AAAAAArrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr!!!!
"O. K., ever'body, all in!"
Thash what I calls real fun!! Yep, Big Al's been around

for a long time! Been ever'where....sheen ever'thin' and....hic...done ever'thin'!! I've wined an' dined wit millionaires an' beggars...kings an' bums..... intellects an' morons!!
Al Cohol is welcome ever'where! I gits invited to all the functions! Birthday parties, baptismals, barmitzvahs! Weddin's, house warmin's, festivals, feasts! Al Cohol goes to all the celebrations!!! Ev'n funerals!!!
I goes ev'n if there ain't nuttin' to celebrate!
Listen, pal! I've been invited to shum of the fancvest parties you've never sheen!! A party jus' ain't a party wit'out Al Cohol! Al Cohol is the life of ev'ry party!!
I am the booze that is used...abused...confused...an' hic...excused!!!

SONG: AL COHOL

AL COHOL

Hic....shay, buddy, c'm'on an' have 'nother lil' drink wit' me!

JOHNNY

Sure, big Al! I'll have another drink with you. I really like you 'cause you're so....hic....friendly!!

AL COHOL

Friendly!! Yep, thash me alright!! Hic...friendly, kindhearted ol' Al Cohol!!! Thash my whole problem! I'm always gettin' in trouble bein' friendly an' tryin' to help people! Enybody thash got a problem can always depend on kindhearted ol' Al Cohol to come an' help 'em! An' we'll jus' shit down together and discuss it!
I don't care how long it takes!! Hours! Days! Months! Years!!! We'll jus' talk 'n drink...drink 'n talk... talk 'n drink...drink 'n drink! Drink 'n drink! Drink 'n drink!!! An' when we're all finished talkin' 'n

drinkin', what'd'ya think happens???

JOHNNY

What happens, Al, ol' pal?? Hic..

AL COHOL

Don't ask me!! I dunno!!!
I was too drunk to know anythin'!!!
I tries to help 'em out, but I can't do ever'thin'!!!
I'm not a shy...ki...apist.....a try...sky...acrist...
a sigh..cry..a.....!!! Hell!! I ain't no shrink!!!
Then when they finds out that I can't help 'em.....
what'd'ya think thev does???
That's right!!! They goes an' commits suicide!!!
Don't blame me!!! It ain't my fault!!
I tries to talk 'em outta it, but they don't listen to
me! They goes 'n do it enyway!!
Then ever'bodv blames it on poor, ol' innocent Al Cohol!
Ever'body sez, "Al Cohol did it!!"
Poor ol' Al Cohol gits blamed for ever'thin' bad that
happens!!! 'Ev'rv barroom brawl...hic..ev'ry tav'r'n
tassle...hic...an' ev'rv saloon scandal that happens!!!
Tsk, tsk, tak!!! (Starts crying loudly)
BOOOOOOOOO HOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!! Ohh, BOOOO HOOOOOOO!!!

JOHNNY

Whash the matter, Al??? What's wrong???

AL COHOL

Pooooor, lil' harmless, innocent Al Cohol!! Booohooooooo
hic....sob.....! Never did nuttin' to nobody an' always
gettin' blamed for ever'thin' bad that happens!!!!
Booooooohooooooo!!! Sniff....sob....they shay.....sob..
that....Ohhhhhhh, boooo..hooooooooooo!!!

JOHNNY

Pull yourself together, Al. What do they say?

AL COHOL

They shay....hic....sob....that Al Cohol....sniff....is the cause of over half of all the homicides....in the world!!! Ohhhhhhh, booohooooooo!!! Thash murder, ain't it??? BOOOOO HHOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!!!

JOHNNY

Who shez all those nasty things 'bout my ol' buddy???

AL COHOL

Sta...six...sticks.....sa...sticks...skicks.....sa... kicks...six!!! The Government, that's who!!!
You know me, don't you, pal??? I'm a nice guy, right??
Right!!! I'm a pussycat!! A warm, loveable, friendly, lil' ol' pussycat!!!
You know I didn't do all those horrible things, don't you, ol' pal?
Now I ask you...how could I be such a nice, friendly, loveable companion one minute, then turn into a Jeckle an' Hyde the next minute???
That's right!! I couldn't do it!!!
Lies!!! Lies!!! Lies!!!! All lies and slander!!!!
I should sue 'em, 'cause I swear to you that Al Cohol did not do it!! An' that's the truth, so help me!!!

JOHNNY

I believe you, Al, ol' pal. I know you didn't do it!!

AL COHOL

At least.....I don't think I did it!
I don't remember doing it!!!
I don't remember nuttin!!! I musta had a blackout, 'cause I don't ev'n remember drivin' home!!!
An' speakin' of drivin'....hic....pal....did you know that Al Cohol is the cause of over half of all traffic deaths???
I'm a killer, ain't I???

Hic.....ish easy!! Lemme show you how I do it!
First, I goes straight to the brain and I'll dullllllll the reflexes and coordination, 'till you gets like this!

Then I'll blurrrrrrrrr your vision, like this!!

I keeps on addin' lots and lotsa confidence, like this!

Then I pours on one more lil' drinky...jes' for the road, mind you...an' I sends 'em staggerin' down the speedway!!!
(Imitates drunk driving down the highway) Hu...in...hu... in...hu...nn.! Va...va...va...vroooooommmmmmmmmmmmmm!!! SCREEEEEEEEECH!!!!!!! CRASH!!!!!! BANG!!!! ARGGGGGG!!
(Police car) AAAAAArrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr!!!!!
"Hello, Sargent? Yep, DOA!!! 10-4! Roger, over an' out!"

JOHNNY

Wow!!! You are really powerful, big Al! Now I see just how you cause all those mangled car accidents!

AL COHOL

That ain't all I can do, pal!!
C'mere, lemme tell you somethin'. You shee...hic.....
I'm such a friendly and likeable feller....hic....that shum men want me to stay wit' 'em all the time!!!
Now don't git the wrong idea!! I ain't funny, 'cause women want me too! Old as I am, I can still sneak around to git my share of the young, pretty, lonesome housewives!!
I'll take the old, ugly lonesome ones too, I ain't prejudiced!!!
Shhhhhhhh!! They're alcoholics! Theys all alcoholics! An' I gotta stay wit 'em, 'cause when an alcoholic tries to stop drinkin' he.....or as the case may be...she... may git the D. T.'s!

JOHNNY

What's the D. T.'s, Al?

AL COHOL

You dunno nuttin, do you?
Well, ol' buddy, I'm gonna educate you!
The D. T.'s is withdrawal symptoms!! Delirium tremens!
You could die if you don't get treatment! Hic!
In fact...you could die if you do get treatment!
Thash when you start seein' things that ain't there!!
Like pink elephants...an' green slimy creatures crawlin'
under your skin.....an' big, fat purple rats an' bugs
runnin' all over the floor an' up the walls!!!
Watch out, there goes one now!!!

JOHNNY

That's horrible!!! Whew!! That really gave me the chills!

AL COHOL

That ain't the half of it! There's more...much more!!
A whole lot more!!!
C'mere an' lemme tell you 'bout this gladiator that
killed his whole family after a drinkin' spree!!
Seven of 'em!!! Hic...It was way, way back in 320 B.C.,
an' this here feller.....

JOHNNY

That's enough!!! Look, Al, I've heard enough of your
gory, gruesome history! Here!!! Take this bottle and
get out!!

AL COHOL

You kickin' me out?? Me??? Al Cohol???
Well, of all the nerve!!! I've been wit' the best!!
Presidents!!! Palaces!!! Royalty!!!
Think o' that!!! Big Al gettin' kicked out by a snotty-
nosed teenage kid!! Hymph!!!

Oh, well, I've been kicked outta better places than this!! (Staggers offstage singing) OOOoooooooooooooohhhhhhhhhh, show me the way ta go home....hic! I'm tired and I wanna go ta bed! Hadda lil' drink about an hour ago.. an' it went right to my head!! OOOOOhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh....

* * * * * * *

JOHNNY

(Holding his head) Ohhhhh, my head is splitting!!
I think I may have had just a little too much of
Al Cohol!!! What a hangover!!
Maybe a few puffs of this will help my head.
(Johnny goes in the paperbag and takes out a long, thin cigarette. He examines it, lights it, and inhales deeply. He hears a loud popping sound and sees a puff of smoke coming from backstage.)

(Scene 3)
(Disco type setting)

(Reefers wears dark glasses and is dressed in a bright red outfit with red wig, shoes and skin. He dances onstage.)

SONG: THE BOOGIE MAN'LL GET CHA

REEFERS

Saaaaay, babee!!! What's happ'ning, Bro?
Put it there, pard! (Slaps Johnny's hand and starts dancing again)
Man, o' man, o' man!! I'd rather dance than eat!

JOHNNY

Yeah, and you're really good at it. Who are you?

REEFERS

Reefers, baby, Reefers!!!
When Reefers comes on the scene, you'll get turned on and tuned in, 'cause I am.....'the Joint'!!
Saaay, baby, have you heard the latest Stevie Wonder album?? Check it out, baby! It'll make you flip your natural wig! That cat may be blind, but he sure makes everybody else see the light! I could listen to it 26 hours a day and never get tired of it!

JOHNNY

Yeah, I heard it on the radio! But I haven't got time to listen to music all day and night like you do, Reefers.

I've got a test in school tomorrow, and I've gotta study!

REEFERS

Study??? Test??? School??? You still go to school??? and you're only a student???
Serious as you are, baby, I thought you were a teacher!!
What are you taking up besides space? Ha, ha, ha, ha,ha!

JOHNNY

I'm not taking up space! I wanna be a doctor, not an astronaut!

REEFERS

You really are spaced out, ain't cha, baby?
You sure you ain't the principal?

JOHNNY

Oh, now I get it. You're just puttin' me on.
O.k., Reefers, I can take a joke.
Mmmmmm, those are some real nice threads you're wearing, Reefers. Expensive too! What kind of work do you do?

REEFERS

Work??? What's that?
Who can concentrate on anything as dull as work with Reefers on the scene!
Noooo, baby, I don't do no work! All I do is party!
An' all I'm ever gonna do is party!! Just listen to some bad sounds and par-day!!!
Reefers work??? Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!!
I can just see Reefers pushing a broom around all day!
Ha, ha, ha, ha! That's a good joke! You should go on the stage with jokes like that...and one just left five minutes ago. Hurry up, maybe you can still catch it!

JOHNNY

I don't believe this! All you do is party? And that's all you wanna do for the rest of your life?

REEFERS

Sure, baby! What else is there in life?

JOHNNY

There's lots of things! I wanna do something with my life! I'm gonna be somebody someday and right now I'm trying to figure out how I'm gonna do it. I've got a lot of problems!

REEFERS

Well, don't let it bug you, baby! Just get high and your problems will all f-l-o-a-t away!
In fact, lace it with some Angel Dust and you may just f-l-o-a-t away with 'em!

JOHNNY

Oh yeah? I tried getting high with Al Cohol and it didn't work at all! When he left, I still had all my problems, plus I had a terrible hangover to go with 'em!

REEFERS

Oh, you're just a kid! What kind of problems could a kid like you have?

JOHNNY

A kid like me can have lots of problems, Reefers!
Society...the system...the establishment! Everything!

REEFERS

Ain't no sense in buggin' yourself, baby! You can't beat the system, so why try?
In a few years you'll be a part of the system and you'll be the establishment! Then you can make things just like you think they should'da been in the first place!

JOHNNY

I can't wait that long, Reefers. The problems I've got need to be solved now! Right now!

REEFERS

O. k., bro. I see you wanna rap, so come on, let's rap! What's buggin' you?

JOHNNY

Well, Reefers, I've been offered a college scholarship and I don't know what to do about it.

REEFERS

A college scholarship? No jive!? And you don't know what to do about it? Well, that's light stuff, baby! You take the scholarship and run! So what's the hassle?

JOHNNY

It's not that simple, Reefers. It's a basketball scholarship and I just don't wanna be a professional basketball player. I love playing basketball and I know I'm good at it, but I think I'd be just as good at being a doctor. And that's what I really wanna be....a doctor!

REEFERS

So what's the big deal in being a doctor?
Professional basketball is much more exciting than lookin' up some old guy's.....medical history!

JOHNNY

Look, Reefers. I just can't see myself wasting all my youth runnin' around in circles pushing a ball back and forth. Besides, medicine can be just as exciting as basketball. Listen....I can hear it now!
"The score is even right now, folks, but the odds are heavily against the medical team winning this game!
A man's life is hanging by a thin thread and there's only seconds left on the clock. The stakes in this game are very high! Life or death!!!
The clinical white uniforms have taken time out and are discussing the best play.
They've made their decision, folks, and the clock has started ticking again!

The doctor dons his rubber gloves and adjusts his mask. You should see the teamwork, folks! The anesthesiologist gives the signal....the nurse slaps the scapel in the doctor's hand...and all eyes are on the young doctor Johnny Smith!!

The interns are perched on the edges of their seats, anxiously watching every move! Will he make the right incision? The air is pregnant with anticipation..... no one dares even breathe!!

The doctor lifts the glistening scapel and..... swiftly and skillfully removes the dreaded problem!

Now he's beginning to suture the wound! You should see his stiches, folks! They would make Besty Ross go back to sewing school!

HE DID IT, FOLKS!!! The operation is over and the patient will live!!! The nurses are all going wild! The interns are rushing over to congratulate the doctor! The patient's family are overwhelmed and crying with joy! I must confess that I may have shed a tear or two myself, because you never know which side is going to win in this exciting game of life and death!!

I know the doctor is exhausted from the tension and the ordeal, but maybe we can get him to say a few words!! Doctor??? Oh, doctor??? Would you say a few words to the audience?

"Well, I just did the best I could. I'll have to go now, I've got another patient waiting for me. Thank you all!"

Well, Reefers, that's more exciting to me than a silly old game of basketball!

REEFERS

Yeah, baby, I see what you mean! You wanna use your brains instead of your brawn!!

JOHNNY

But I don't know how I'm gonna do it! I'm working part-time for Mr. Johnson over at the drugstore. He wants me to work for him full-time when I finish high school 'cause he's gettin' too old to handle all the work. If I took the job with Mr. Johnson, maybe I could save up enough money in a few years to pay my way through med school...but then again, I may get stuck on the job and never get to be a doctor.

If I take the basketball scholarship, I can just forget about becoming a doctor because I know I can't play basketball and study for medicine at the same time.

So you see, Reefers, I've gotta make up my mind whether to accept the basketball scholarship, take the job with Mr. Johnson, or find some other way to study medicine. And I've only got a short time to make up my mind just what I'm gonna do!

REEFERS

Yeah, baby, that's heavy!! Real heavy! But don't worry 'bout it, you'll make it!

Look-a-here, baby. I came here to party and all I've done so far was listen to a sportscaster and a soap opera!

Besides, all this chit-chat has made me hungry. You got anything to munch on?

JOHNNY

The only thing I've got is this apple. You can have it if you want it.

REEFERS

(Taking a bite) Ahhhh, delicious!!! Where'd you get this apple?? It's really delicious! Tangy and sweet... succulent and juicy! And the texture is purrfect!!! Smooth and crunchy! Mmmmmmmmm, I'll just roll it around

on my tongue and savor the flavor before I swallow it! Mmmmmmmm! Ahhhhhhhhhh!!!

JOHNNY

I've never seen anybody enjoy an apple that much before!

REEFERS

Baby, I enjoy <u>everything</u>!! Ev-e-ry-thing!!!
Except work!
By the way, what time is it?

JOHNNY

It's six o'clock, why?

REEFERS

Six o'clock!!! That's impossible!! No way, baby!!! It's gotta be later than that! We've been talking for almost an hour! What's wrong with your watch???

JOHNNY

There's nothing wrong with my watch! It's six o'clock and we've only been talking ten minutes!!!

REEFERS

Ten minutes?? It can't be! I feel like I've been around the world and back! All of that couldn't have happened in only ten minutes!

JOHNNY

What do you mean?

REEFERS

Forget it, you probably wouldn't understand anyway! Saaaaay, baby, have you been to that new disco joint yet? It's the wildest!!! They've got speakers all over the place, with music comin' outta everywhere!! The lights are outta sight and the jock is something else!! You better check it out, baby, 'cause you don't know what you're missing!

JOHNNY

O. k., I'll check it out. Where is it?

REEFERS

Where's what?

JOHNNY

The disco joint you were just telling me about!!!

REEFERS

Disco joint???.....
Oh, yeah! I forgot what we talking about! It's on the east side in the nineties.

JOHNNY

Say, Reefers, your eyesight must be almost as bad as your memory. How come you're wearing sunglasses when it's cloudy outside?

REEFERS

Red eyes, baby, red eyes!!!
The red-eyed boogie man!!! (Takes off glasses and lurches for Johnny) Boooooooooo!!!!!!
Ha, ha, ha, ha!!!
Look-a-here, baby, I'm splittin' the scene! I'm gonna meet my new lady and we're gonna go to that disco and par-daaaaay!!! Then we're gonna go over to my place and par-daaaaaay some more!!
Chow!!!
(Reefers dances offstage)
SONG: THE BOOGIE MAN'LL GET CHA

* * * * * *

(Johnny pours some orange juice in the paper cup. He takes out a sugar cube and examines it carefully, then drops it in the juice and drinks it. He hears a loud popping sound and sees a puff of smoke.)

(Scene 4)

LIGHTS DIM: Vibrant, pulsating music begins. Optical illusions spin slowly in the background. Multicolored lights blink off and on.

LSD wears a multi-colored chiffon outfit with matching hair and skin. She dances onstage.

LSD

Hel...lo! Hel....looooo!!!

Hello, all you lo-ve-ly, bee-you-ti-ful, won-der-ful people!!!

I love you!!!

I love you.....and you.....and you.....and especially you!!! I love everybody!!! (Throws kisses to audience)

JOHNNY

Now who are you???

LSD

I'm ell.....ess.....dee!!!!

Beautiful, colorful, psychedelic...mind expanding....LSD!!

With my hallucinating acid, I can explode your mind and open up a mental world of brilliant fireworks!!!

Come on, John-John, come fly with me!

Let's take a trip!! A long, lovely trip!!!

JOHNNY

A trip??? But....where're we gonna go??? What are we gonna see?? When are we coming back???

LSD

Who knows???? Who cares!!!! We'll get high and flyyyy!!

Way, way up in the sky!!! We can be birds!!! We can be supermen!!! Up....up....and a....waaaaaay!!!!

(Grabs Johnny's hand and starts dancing)

JOHNNY

Wait a minute!! I don't even know if I'm ready to fly! I don't even know where we're going!

LSD

Of course you don't know where we're going! Neither do I! That's the fun of it. We never know where we're going, what we're going to see, or when we're coming back! There's so many different places we may go to. We may explore the unknown and go where time has no meaning and space doesn't exist!
We may go flying flying through time and space to the moon.....mars...venus!!! Or way, way beyond saturn!! We may go where all your senses cross over and we'll be able to see the melodies of the symphonies and float on the vibrations of the music. We'll blend and unite and become one with the melody. We can become the symphony! We may go where we can just look at a still painting and actually hear the rippling brooks gurgling with laughter! Or maybe we'll gaze at a landscape and listen to the mountains whispering secrets to each other.
We may even be able to see the auras of the pulsating, vibrating energy of <u>all</u> living things! Trees....plants.. clouds...rocks...animals...everything!!!

JOHNNY

That's enough!!! Let's go!!

LSD

Or maybe we'll go where all your thoughts materialize and become pictorial. Then you'll be able to watch as your thoughts are being formed!

JOHNNY

That's enough for me! I'm ready to go right now!

LSD

Or perhaps we'll go where we can communicate with the Gods and learn profound new insights about life and love!

JOHNNY

That's it!! That's just what I've been looking for!! Come on, LSD, let's go!! Let's fly!!!

SONG: A TRIP TO NOWHERE

JOHNNY

I'm ready to go, LSD! What are we waiting for?

LSD

Hold on, John-John, I haven't finished!
That's just the good part of it! There's another side I haven't told you about! We could very well go the other way and have what's called a 'freakout' or 'bummer' trip! That's when you'd fall down from the heights of heaven straight into the deep dark depths of HELL!!!
You may go and find yourself all alone and totally disoriented in a timeless void with nothing but loneliness....confusion....and TERROR!!!
The normal things around you will blow all out of proportion and strange distorted monsters will be lurking in every corner waiting just for you alone!
Even when you realize that you, yourself are creating these monsters, you'll be powerless to stop or even control them and they'll expand and increase to a frightening degree!!
You'll be painfully sensitive, completely defenseless, and totally surrounded by weird, senseless apparitions of your own creation!
You'll be stripped naked of all logic in this maze of confusion and your mental stability will be shakened to the very core!

You may panic with fear and trv to escape from this nightmare of enforced insanity....but escape is impossible! There will be no place you can run to and no where you can hide! And you won't be able to leave until the trip is all over....until it has run its full course and is completely finished! And that may take many, many soul-shattering hours!
You may find that the price you will have to pay for my synthetic high is much too costlv!
Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh, but that's the chance you take!
I can promise you, John-John, this is one trip that will really blow your mind!!!
Come on, John-John, let's fly!!! Up...up...and a..... waaaaaaaay!!!!!
(LSD dances crazilv with Johnnv)
LIGHTS BLINK FASTER AND FASTER:
OPTICAL ILLUSIONS SPIN WILDLY:
MUSIC GETS LOUDER AND DISCHORDED:

JOHNNY

Stop! Stop!!! Lemme down!!! Lemme down!!! I'm gettin' dizzy! I don't wanna fly anymore!!! Lemme down! I wanna get down NOW!!!
LIGHTS SLOW DOWN:
MUSIC LOWERS AND STOPS:
OPTICAL ILLUSIONS CEASE SPINNING:

LSD

Alright, John-John. You're down now, but I warn you! Somedav, when you least expect it, vou may have a 'flashback' and go on a trip all by yourself!
Lots of luck!!
Look for me.....I'll be waiting for vou!!!
Bveeeeeeeeeeeee!!!!
(LSD dances offstage)

* * * * * *

JOHNNY

Well, she's gone and I sure hope she doesn't come back anytime soon.

Whew!! Am I pooped!

Maybe some of these will help perk me up!

(Johnny takes out two colored capsules. He swallows them and hears a loud popping sound and sees a puff of smoke from backstage.)

(Scene 5)

(Uppers wears a brightly colored racing outfit with matching hair and skin. He runs onstage speaking very fast.)

UPPERS

Hey, fellow!! You seen my brother anywhere?

JOHNNY

I don't think so. What does he look like?

UPPERS

He looks just like me, only he's fat!! Fat and slow!! Hw walks slow, he talks slow, He eats slow, he even sleeps slow! And he's always falling asleep!

(While he is talking, he runs all around looking up and down and under things.)

I've been looking for him all day and I can't find him anywhere!!

It's hard for him to keep up with me, 'cause he's so slow! Where is that slowpoke???

Downers??? Downers??? Downers, where you??? I can't keep going on like this!!

Oooooooo, where is he? Where can he be???
(Downers starts to run offstage)

JOHNNY

(Grabbing Uppers) Wait a minute!! Hold still for a second, will you???

What's your name? Who are you???

UPPERS

Who am I???? Who are you???
Why are you asking so many questions? Are you the police? The FBI? The CIA??? A.....a...secret, foreign spy??
I know they're watching me and they're all over!! Everywhere!!! They could be anywhere and anyone!!
That's why I've gotta be so careful about who I talk to and what I say!
If you're the police, please don't lock me up!! Pu-lease!! I couldn't stand to be cooped up in a hot, tiny little cell with nothing to do all night and day. I'd go nuts!! Absolutely, positively nuts!!
I'm not the one you're looking for, I swear!!!
My brother, Downers, can tell you who I am!!
Downers???? Downers!!!! Where are you??? I need you!! I need you now!!! Right now!!!
(Downers slowly shuffles onstage and leans against the park bench. He wears a long blue nightshirt and nightcap with matching bedroom slippers, hair and skin.)
Downers!!! Downers, thank heavens you finally got here!! Where were you? I haven't eaten or slept in two days!! You know how much I depend on you!
I couldn't find you anywhere! I looked uptown, downtown, crosstown and underground! Where've you been all this time??? What took you so long to get here???
Why do you treat me like this? Who were you with??
What were you doing???
(To Johnny) You see what I mean?? I told you he was slow!! I told you, I told you, I told you!!
All this time, and he still hasn't said one word! Not one single solidary word! Look at him, just standing there like a big, fat.....

JOHNNY

Look, fellows, my name's Johnny. (To Uppers) What's yours?

UPPERS

You sure it's all right to trust you? I don't tell anybody anything but my rank and serial number until I know for sure they're not a spy or an informer.

JOHNNY

You can trust me. I'm not an informer or a spy!
Look, I'll swear on this bible that I'm O.k.
(Picks up one of his books)

UPPERS

(Snatching the book) This isn't a bible, it's a history book!!!
I knew something was wrong with you the minute I saw you! You're Hitler and you're gonna put me in a concentration camp and torture me until I tell you everything I know!! Torture me??? Hanging up by my fingernails???? Oooohhh, my nerves couldn't stand it!!! Ohhh, Mr. Hitler..... General Hitler.....President Hitler, sir! Please don't torture me, I'll talk....I'll talk!!! I'll tell you everything!! Just ask me anything you want to know!!!
My name's Uppers!! Amphetamine!!! Speed!!!
They call me "Uppers" 'cause I take you up!!
I give you energy!! Vim!! Vigor!! Vitality!!!
You won't need food or sleep with me around 'cause I make you feel alert and full of life!!!
My brother's just the opposite!! His name's Downers!!! Barbituates!! He's a sleeper!! He can't keep up with me!! He can't do any of the things I can do! Look!! I'll show you! Watch this!! I bet you never saw anything like this before! Watch!!!
(Uppers starts running, spinning or doing calisthenics)

DOWNERS

(Speaking very slowly) Don't.....pay....any...atten..
tion...to.....my....brother! He's....been....like.....
that....for....years!

JOHNNY

Oh, yeah?? How many years has he been like that?

DOWNERS

One...

JOHNNY

That's not so bad.

DOWNERS

Hundred.....

JOHNNY

Well, that's a big dif....

DOWNERS

Ninety....

JOHNNY

I thought...

DOWNERS

Nine....and a half! He'll keep on..... going..like...
that....until....he...crashes! That's why.....he.....
needs...me! I....calm....him....down.....(nods)

JOHNNY

Well, that's very nice of you!

DOWNERS

When.....he..gets...all....keyed....up.(nods)

JOHNNY

Well, I guess he's finished!

DOWNERS

And nervous.(nods again)

JOHNNY

I guess that's it!

DOWNERS

And jittery. (Starts snoring)

JOHNNY

Goodnight, Downers!

DOWNERS

And jumpy. I....make....him...eat...and...rest!
He's...nothing....but...a...pep...pill!

UPPERS

I heard that!! I heard every word you said!
Pep pill am I??? You've got some nerve calling me a pep pill! Look at you! A fat, lazy goof ball! Always goofing off and falling asleep!
What good are you anyway? You're good for nothing!!!
that's what!! A good for nothing goof ball!

DOWNERS

I.....am....good...for.....

UPPERS

Nothing!!! Say it!!! Say it!! Come on and spit it out!!

DOWNERS

Lots....of....things!
I'm....useful....for...peptic...ulcers,.....high.....
blood...presure...epli...es...y,...con...vul...sions...
in...som...nia.....

UPPERS

Big deal!!! So what??? Your memory is so terrible, I'm surprised you can even remember what you're good for! That's why so many people die because of you!!
They take a Downer to put them to sleep, then wake up, forgetting they already took a Downer, and take another one! They wake up, take a Downer, go to sleep! Wake up, take a Downer, go to sleep! Wake up, take a Downer, go to sleep! Wake up, take a Downer...and that's it!!!
They never have to take another Downer, 'cause they don't wake up no more!!!

And not only that, but if anyone gets hooked on you, they could die from the withdrawals! You and that drunken Al Cohol are just alike!!!
But me...I'm great!!! I'm one hundred times better than you are! I'm younger! I'm stronger!! I'm faster! And I'm skinnyer!!! I am the greatest!! I am the onlyest!!
SONG: TOGETHERNESS

DOWNERS

Look....Uppers! I'm..tired...of..your...bragging...and nagging...and..pushing...and..pulling...me...around!!
You...couldn't..get..along..without...me!! You..wouldn't ..eat...or...rest!
Look...at...you!! Under...weight...under..nourished... dis..organized...confused...tense...nervous!!
One...of...these...days...you're...gonna...flip..your.. lid..al..to..gether! And...when...they...come..to..take. ..you..away...I'll..tell...every...body..all...about... you...and...

UPPERS

I knew it, I knew it, I knew it!!!!!
You're the one!!! You're the guilty culprit!!
You're the secret agent that's been spying on me all this time! What a clever plan disguising yourself as my very own brother!!!
How cunning!!! How ingenious!!! How sneaky!!!
Where is my brother, and how long have you been wearing this disguise??
Take off that ugly mask, and take off my brother's clothes!
(Uppers and Downers start fighting.)

JOHNNY

Hey, stop it, you guys! Cut it out!! That's enough!!
Come on, get out of here! Both of you!
(Johnny pushes and pulls Uppers and Downers offstage)

* * * * *

(End of Act I)

ACT II

JOHNNY

Gee, I sure am getting hungry! I'm gonna try some of this, then I'll go home and get something to eat!

(Johnny takes out a small glassine envelope, unfolds it and sniffs it. He hears a loud popping sound and sees a puff of smoke from backstage.)

(Scene 1)

(Rich, plush background)

(Cocaine wears a short white wig, a white satin dress and shoes, long white furs and lots of pearls and diamonds)

COCAINE

(Calling from backstage) Poopsie!!! Poopsie!!!

(Enters onstage dragging her furs on the floor)

(Looking all around) Poopsie!!! Poopsie, vare are you, darlink? (To Johnny) Haf you seen my little Poopsie? He's a tiny little french poodle, only about so big, but he's very expensive and so sveet and adorable. My seventeenth husband vill be annoyed vit me ven he learns zat I've lost Poopsie.

JOHNNY

Seventeen husbands?? You've had seventeen husbands???

COCAINE

Vhy, of course, darlink! Doesn't everybody?? Vut is so strange about zat?

I vould introduce myself, but of course you already know zat I am zee rich and fabulous Cocaine.

JOHNNY

Cocaine?? Of course! I remember reading about you in the newspapers. Wow!!! You are everything they said you were and more!

Those earrings are genuine pearl, aren't they? And those rings are real diamonds! Even your long, silky eyelashes are real!

COCAINE

But of course, darlink! Zay are all real! Cocaine only has zee best of everything. And you..you alert rascal, you notice every little detail, don't you?
And so handsome, too! Vut is your name, darlink?

JOHNNY

My name's Johnny, and I'm gonna be a doctor someday!

COCAINE

A docture!!! Moola manufacturer!!!! Ohhhhhhh!
But zat's vunderful, darlink! Zat means you vill haf lots and lots uff money!
Darlink, as long as you haf plenty uff money, I vill luff you. But ven zee money goes....so does Cocaine!
My 13th husband, see no Count of Montee Voolie became so depressed ven I left him zat he committed suicide!
Vitout even a varning, vun day he just jumped right off...zee curb!

JOHNNY

The curb??? That didn't kill him, did it?

COCAINE

Of course not, darlink! It vas zee trailor truck zat vus coming down zee street zat killed him!
It vus unfortunate vut happened to him, but his money vus all gone! I had to leave him! Vut else could I do?
Poor sing! He probably vouldn't haf lasted much longer anyvay, zee membranes in his nose vere all eaten avay!
Vhy, he couldn't even smell my expensive perfume anymore!
Oh, vell, I can't vorry about him anymore, especially ven zere are so many more rrrrich, strong, handsome men around! Like you, darlink, mmmmmmmmmm!!!!!

JOHNNY

You sure know how to make a man feel good, Cocaine!

Just being around you make me feel like I could tackle a cage full of wild animals....with one hand tied behind my back! Grrrr!!! (Lifts her high in the air)

COCAINE

Oooooooooooh, darlink, you are so very strong!!
But zen, Cocaine always brings out zee energy in her men! You vill feel much veaker ven I am gone.

JOHNNY

Well, I sure feel good and strong now! I feel like I could work all day and night without even stopping for food! I'm not even hungry anymore!

COCAINE

But of course you are not hungry, darlink! Who could sink of anysing as dull as food ven Cocaine is avound! Besides, you do not need any food. You are already big and strong enough. You are intelligent enough to realize zat, you handsome genius!!
Come, seence you haf so much energy, vee vill dance!
SONG: BOOM CHICA BOOGIE

COCAINE

Darlink, you are so vunderful zat I am going to divorce my husband today and marry you tomorrow!
But you must promise me, darlink, zat ven vee get married, you vill not become jealous and paranoid like all my other husbands!

JOHNNY

No, I'm not jealous, Cocaine. But I can sure see why your husbands were jealous of you. You do something to a man!
But I can't marry you right now, Cocaine. I don't have any money and I couldn't support you!

COCAINE

No money??? Raggedy roaches!!!! Ohhhhhhhhhhhh!!!!!
You deed not tell me zat!!! Zee wedding is off!!!
Vit no money you could not possibly support me in zee style vich I am so accustomed to!!!
Vhy, if I married you, vee vould be beggars!!!
Vee vould haf to go on zee 'farevell'!!!

JOHNNY

You mean welfare!
Yeah, you're right, Cocaine! I guess we would have to go on welfare. But you make me feel so good, maybe we could see each other in between your husbands....you know, play around on the side a little?

COCAINE

Play around??? Play around wiz Cocaine?????
Baccala, bagels and beans!!!!!!! Oh, no, zat could never be! Darlink, I can't play around wiz 'peasants'!!! I am much too rich for zat! I vould only....how you say...open up zee nose, zen, poof!!!! I leave you....(snaps fingers) just like zat!!!
Darlink, you are very sveet and so adorable, I could really and truly luff you, but zere's no sense vasting anymore time vit you. You're much too poor and much too young. Vhy, you're nothing but a babee!!! A very sveet babee....but a very poor babee!!!
I am so sorry, darlink! Ven you become a docture and get rich, zen vee vill talk, o.k.???
Till zen, bye, bye, darlink!!!
It's been vunderful talking vit you.
(Blows him a kiss and exits offstage calling)
Poopsie??? Poopsie??? Vere are you, darlink????

* * * * * *

(Scene 2)
(Park bench)

(Jimmy slithers onstage. He is now a junkie. He is wearing a dirty, ragged T-shirt, dungarees and sneakers).

JIMMY

(Scratching and nodding) Saaay, Johnny, baby. Long time no see. How you been doing, pal?

JOHNNY

Hey, Jimmy! Where've you been? I haven't seen you since you dropped out of high school.

JIMMY

Yeah, school was a drag! A real drag!
I may go back later on, but right now there's too much happening in the world. Boy, I could write a whole book about what I've been through since I dropped out of school.

SONG: LOVE CAN BE A HURTIN' THING

JOHNNY

Jimmy, you wouldn't believe some of the things that have happened to me since the last time I saw you.
I've met Al Cohol, Reefers, LSD, Uppers and Downers, and even Cocaine!
Man, those drugs were something else, but I knew how to handle them! I got tired of all of 'em and kicked 'em out! Now I'm ready to try something else...something different...completely different!

JIMMY

Something different, eh?? Well, if you're looking for some new kicks and you really want something different, I've got just the one for you.....Miss Heroin!!!

JOHNNY

Miss Heroin?? What is she like??

JIMMY

You mean you've never had Miss Heroin?
Ohhhh, man!!! You don't know what you've been missing!

All the rest of the guys have been with her, how come you missed out?

I go out with her all the time and I can tell you this, Johnny....Miss Heroin is <u>real good</u>!!

Look, if you want to meet her, I'll introduce you to her.

JOHNNY

(Uncertainly) We...ell,.....I don't know..I'm not sure.

JIMMY

Oh, come on, Johnny! You don't wanna be the only one outta the gang that hasn't tried it, do you? Don't be a chicken all your life!

JOHNNY

I'm not chicken! I was only kidding!! You know me, I'll try anything once! Come on, Jimmy, I'll meet your Miss Heroin and I'll handle her the same way I did those other drugs!

(Jimmy takes out a tiny silverfoil envelope, opens it and sniffs. He hands it to Johnny. Johnny sniffs. He hears a loud popping sound and sees a puff of smoke from backstage.)

(Scene 3)

(Miss Heroin enters onstage. She has long silver hair, wears a long silver lamé outfit with silver shoes.)

JIMMY

Look, Johnny, here she is now!

Miss Heroin, this is my friend, Johnny.

Johnny, this is the one and only <u>Miss Heroin</u>!

MISS HEROIN

<u>Miz</u> Heroin, if you don't mind!

So this is the one who wanted to meet me. I certainly hope you know what you're doing. I'm not a toy, you know. I may be too much for a little <u>boy</u> like you!!!

JOHNNY

I'm not a <u>boy</u>!! I've handled lots of drugs, so I know I can handle you, Miss Heroin. Just try me!

MISS HEROIN

So you really think you can handle me, do you? Well, before we get together, I'm going to tell you a few things you may not be aware of.

(Jimmy leaves offstage)

SONG: MISS HEROIN

JOHNNY

That's a real nice song, Miss Heroin, but that could never happen to me! I'm not like those other turkeys you've been hanging out with. I'd never get hooked, 'cause I've got will power!!! I can take you or leave you whenever I get ready!

Besides, I've got too much to do! I've gotta finish high school and go to college so I can become a doctor!! Doctor Johnny Smith!! That'll be me in just a few years! Right now, I'm just looking for a few kicks to pass the time away. So come on, Miss Heroin, give me a chance to show you what a real man is like!!!

MISS HEROIN

A real man, eh?? O.k., big boy, if that's the way you want it. Just don't say I didn't warn you.

(Starts massaging him) Relax, sweetie! You're so tense and tight. Just relax and inhale some more of my potent fragrance.

JOHNNY

(Sniffing her arm) Ohhhh, Miss Heroin! You smell so wonderful and you're making me feel fantastic!

MISS HEROIN

I know, lover boy. That's my job and I'm the best there is! You're going to feel even better once I get under your skin.

JOHNNY

I don't know how I could ever feel any better than this! This is more than enough for me, Miss Heroin!

Ohhhh, Miss Heroin, you're so warm and comfortable, I could stay like this all day!

MISS HEROIN

(Gently pushing him away) O.k., lover boy, that's enough for now. I only wanted to give you a little taste of me so you'd know just what you were missing.
If you really like me and want to see me again, you're gonna have to pay me. I'm not in this business for kicks, you know.

JOHNNY

How much do you charge?

MISS HEROIN

Well, since you're kinda cute and it's your very first time, I'm only gonna charge you five dollars a trick.

JOHNNY

Five dollars? That's light stuff! Here! (Hands her money) I can see that you and I are gonna be seeing a whole lot of each other.
Look, Miss Heroin, don't make any dates for the weekend 'cause I'm booking you for the whole weekend....and I'm paying in advance!!!

MISS HEROIN

The whole weekend??? Are you sure you can afford it?

JOHNNY

Of course I can afford it! You're dealing with a man not a boy! See you on the weekend, o.k.???

MISS HEROIN

O.k., big daddy, I'll be waiting right here for you. Don't disappoint me!
(Johnny runs offstage)
LIGHTS DIM:

* * * * *

(Scene 4)

(Johnny has changed his shirt. Miss Heroin is sitting on the bench filing her nails. Johnny rushes over to embrace her).

MISS HEROIN

(Pushing him away) Let's see the color of your money first!

JOHNNY

Oh, come on, Miss Heroin. We've been seeing each other for almost a month now. Can't you give me a break sometimes? You know I don't make much money. I only work part-time, and I've been giving you all the money I earn. I haven't kept any for myself!

MISS HEROIN

(Angrily) Look, Junior! I don't know how you get your money and I don't want to know! All I'm interested in is money! You know exactly how much I charge and if you can't afford to pay for me, there's plenty of others who can!
If you don't have money, you can just get lost!

JOHNNY

Don't get mad, Miss Heroin, I was only kidding.
Look, I've got money. Here! (Shoves money in her hand) I had to pawn my mother's watch and I sure hope she doesn't get suspicious about all the stuff that's missing from the house lately.

MISS HEROIN

That's your problem, not mine!

JOHNNY

I know, Miss Heroin, but you've gotten under my skin now and I just can't seem to think straight anymore. I can't seem to get enough of you. I want you to be with me all the time and I know I can't afford it. Miss Heroin, I wanna go all the way with you and take you in my arms. It'll be a whole lot cheaper for me

'cause I'll get higher faster and it'll last longer. Besides, I'm only gonna do it once or twice, then I'm gonna stop seeing you after that!!

MISS HEROIN

It's up to you, dearie, It doesn't matter to me one way or the other. I aim to please and as long as I get paid, I'll do it anyway you want to do it!
(They embrace passionately)

JOHNNY

Oooooooooohhhhhhh, Miss Heroin, you feel so good!!!
I feel so relaxed and contented holding you in my arms like this!
Mmmmmmmmm, I wish I could keep you like this forever!
Mmmmmmmmmmmm, Miss Heroin, I want you to stay in my arms for the whole day tomorrow, o.k.? How much will that cost me?

MISS HEROIN

The whole day?? That's a big order! I'll have to turn away a few of my other customers. But since you're gonna become one of my regulars, I'll let you off cheap, fifty bucks!

JOHNNY

Fifty dollars??? You must be kidding!!! Are you serious??

MISS HEROIN

Is death serious?

JOHNNY

But, Miss Heroin...how can I get fifty dollars by tomorrow?

MISS HEROIN

I'm not even worried about it, you'll find a way.
You'd better find a way if you want to keep on seeing me, because that's my price from now on!!!
And just for the records, that fifty bucks is only going

to hold for a short time! A very short time!
My price goes up faster than the cost of living!
And I'm letting you know right now that I want cash and cash only! I don't accept checks, credit or Master Charge!!
Incidentally, there are no days off!!
No sick days...no holidays...and no vacations!!!
I want my money ev-er-y single day!! In cash!!
So long, sucker!! (Miss Heroin struts offstage)

SONG: I'm JUST A COUNTRY BOY

(Mary enters onstage. She is dressed normally)

MARY

Hi, Johnny. Where've you been keeping yourself lately? I haven't seen you around in quite awhile.

JOHNNY

(Dejectedly) Oh, hi, Mary.

MARY

What's the matter, Johnny? You don't look good at all! What happened to the old happy Johnny I used to know?

JOHNNY

Oh, it's nothing that I can't handle, Mary. I can take care of it.

MARY

Oh, Johnny, I'm worried about you. Please tell me what's wrong. Maybe I can help.

JOHNNY

Well, I guess it wouldn't do any harm to tell you, Mary. I sure need to talk to somebody!
(Sigh) I've been seeing a lot of Miss Heroin lately and I think I'm in love with her.
I thought Miss Heroin would help me escape from my problems for a while and she helped me alright! Now I've got a bigger problem than I had before....Miss Heroin!!

MARY

Isn't that the same Miss Heroin that Jimmy's been foolin' around with? Johnny, you saw what she did to him! He's all strung out!

JOHNNY

Yeah, but Jimmy's weak! He doesn't know how to handle her like I do.
I'll be able to work things out as soon as I figure out how to go about it!

MARY

Are you really sure you know how to handle her, Johnny? You haven't been to school for weeks now and your mother says that you stay out until all hours of the night and nobody knows where you go or what you're doing with your money.
Even Mr. Johnson is worried. His customers are all complaining about being shortchanged by you and there's been money missing from the cash register lately.
Johnny, don't you see what Miss Heroin is doing to you??
Maybe you <u>can</u> escape from life with drugs, but then what will you use to escape from the drugs???
Life is meant to be <u>lived</u>---not escaped!!!
Johnny, you've got to learn to face life and solve your problems without drugs.
Johnny, please stop seeing Miss Heroin before it's too late.
What happened to all your plans for becoming a doctor? For helping others?? How can you help others when you can't even help yourself?
Johnny, can't you see what you're doing to your mother? Your friends??? Yourself???
Oh, Johnny, please stop seeing Miss Heroin and come on back to school!

Don't see her again, Johnny!
Promise me right now, Johnny, that you'll quit Miss Heroin and never see her again! Please promise me, Johnny, please!!

JOHNNY

I'm gonna quit her soon, Mary, I promise. But not yet! Not right now! I can't quit her right now, I just can't! You don't understand! You don't know what's going on! You don't know what I'm going through! Nobody knows, and nobody can help me. Sometimes I wish I'd never been born!

MARY

Somebody knows, Johnny. Somebody knows!

SONG: SOMEBODY'S LOOKING

MISS HEROIN

(Calling from backstage) John---ny! John-----ny!

JOHNNY

Listen, Mary! Do you hear that???

MISS HEROIN

John----ny!!! John---ny!!

MARY

I don't hear anything, Johnny!

MISS HEROIN

John----ny.

JOHNNY

It's Miss Heroin!!! She's calling for me! I've got to go to her! I'm coming, Miss Heroin, I'm coming!!!
(Johnny runs offstage and Mary covers her face with her hands and cries).

* * * * * *

CURTAIN

(Scene 5.)

BACKSTAGE: (Glass is heard shattering and an old man's voice says,

JOHNNY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE THIS TIME OF NIGHT???

PUT THAT GUN DOWN, JOHNNY!!! DON'T TAKE MY MONEY!!!

PLEASE!! HELP!!!! POLICE!!!

(Two gunshot sounds are heard, then the scuffling of feet A door slams then police sirens)

(Miss Heroin is sitting on the bench when Johnny runs onstage waving a stack of money. He is dirty, ragged and covered with blood).

JOHNNY

(Breathlessly) Look, Miss Heroin! I've got the money for you. I just robbed Mr. Johnson's drugstore and I think I may have killed him! But I had to do it!

I did it for you, Miss Heroin! Here, take it!!

It's yours....it's all yours!!

Now come on and get back in my arms! Hurry up, Miss Heroin, the police are looking for me right now!!

(Miss Heroin tucks the money away and they embrace passionately)

JOHNNY

Oeeeeeo, Miss Heroin, thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

You don't know how much I needed that!

Now I can relax for awhile. Miss Heroin, you don't know the hell I've been through these past months. Stealing from people I love....mugging, robbing...and now....maybe even murder!

My God!! You're making me do things I never dreamed I could ever do to anybody!

But I love you, Miss Heroin! You love me too, don't you? Look at all the money I've given you! That should mean something to you!

MISS HEROIN

It'll do for the moment, but this money is for the past, and the past is gone. What about the future?

JOHNNY

The future??? You mean...this isn't enough for you? Miss Heroin, I've just murdered a man for you, and now you're telling me, it isn't enough!
How much is enough??? what does it take to satisfy you??

MISS HEROIN

It's not to satisfy me, fool.....it's to satisfy you!!!

JOHNNY

(After thinking about this) You know what, Miss Heroin? You're right!!! You're absolutely right!!!
It is to satisfy me!! Mary was right about you. Why didn't I see this before? You're nothing but a parasite and you won't be satisfied until you've drained my last drop of blood! Well, you picked the wrong one this time, Miss Heroin! It's all over between you and me!! I've stolen all I'm gonna steal for you and you're not gonna get another penny from me!!
I told you before that I could quit you any time I got ready and I'm ready right now!!!
You and I are through, MIZ Heroin!!! Pack your stuff and get out! I don't give a damn if I never see you again!!! Get out and stay out!!!

MISS HEROIN

Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! You're dumber than I thought you were! Do you really think you can get rid of me that easily??
I'm not like those other drugs you toyed around with! You can't play with me for a while, then quit when you don't feel like playing anymore!

I warned you before you started fooling around with me what would happen, but you didn't believe me! You had to find out for yourself, the hard way!!!
Now look at you!! All strung out! Addicted! You're nothing but a dirty, lousy junkie!!! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!

JOHNNY

You're lying, you're lying!!! I'm not a junkie! I'm not hooked! I'm not!!! What are you trying to do to me, Miss Heroin?? How long does this go on? What do you want from me?

MISS HEROIN

You stupid fool! You still haven't learned, have you? Well, maybe you can understand this!!!
I want everything!!! Everything you own, and all you can beg, borrow and steal!!! And I'll want everything I can get from you for the rest of your life!
And from the looks of you, that won't be very long!
And a puny punk like you thought you could handle Miss Heroin!! Why I've had men who were ten times stronger and smarter than you fall down on their knees and beg ME for mercy!! There's not a man on the face of the earth that I can't control!
You didn't realize it, but you were well on the way to becoming hooked the very first time you sniffed my potent powder! Once I entered you body, by any means, I began tearing down your resistance, bit by bit, until finally, your body just couldn't function without me!
Remember how good you felt when I first started getting under your skin? You were hooked then, and didn't know it! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!!
I knew it would be just a matter of time and I'd be in your arms and in your blood!!!

(Imitating Johnny sarcastically) "Come on, Miss Heroin, I'll only do it a few times, then I'll stop. I promise! I won't get hooked, I promise!!"
Now look at you! You're nothing but a junkie with a hundred dollar a day habit and you probably won't live to be thirty years old!
You got no money....you got no friends....you got no job... ....you got no education....you ain't got a damn thing!!
And you wanna quit me???? Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!!
Well, go ahead, fool! Try it!! Just try it!!!
what do I need you for anyway?? I've got plenty of men just begging for my services, so who needs a bum like you?
And you can just forget about ever becoming a doctor!!
A doctor???? Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!! Doctor JUNKIE!!
Doctor DONKEY!!! Hee haw!!! Hee Haw!!! Hee Haw!!!
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!!!!

JOHNNY

Liar!! I'm not a junkie, I'm not!! I'll prove it to you! I'll prove it to everybody! I'll show you that I can get along without you and I'll do better than I did before I met you! You just watch, you'll see!!
Get out! Go to your other men, see if I care! Get out! Get out!! (Miss Heroin struts offstage laughing)
Slut!!! Tramp!!! Whore!!!

SONG: THE BEST ACTOR OF THE YEAR

(Johnny paces back and forth wringing his hands. He wipes his forehead and nose continously)

JOHNNY

It's not true!! It can't be true! I'm not hooked! I can't be hooked! I've just got a bad cold! But these hot chills and cold sweat??? Maybe I'm catching the flu! I can't believe I'm hooked! I refuse to believe it!

(Johnny paces back and forth continously wiping his forehead and moaning and groaning. He sweats and shivers and moans and shakes. He holds his stomach and growls)

JOHNNY

Oooooooooooo, God!!! I can't take it anymore!!! These cramps!! The pain is killing me!!! Oooh, my stomach!!! I can't stand it! I never dreamed it would hurt this much!!! Owwwwwwwwwww!!!! Oh, God!!! uuuuunnnnnnnn!!! Ohh, God!!! Help me!!! Owwwwwww!!!! Ohhh, it hurts so bad!!! (He wipes his face with his shirt) Oh, God, please help me, I can't take any more!!! Please help me!! Somebody!!! Anybody!!! PLease!!! (Johnny starts crying) Oh, my God, it's true!! It's really true!! It's true!! Miss Heroin was right!! I'm hooked!!! I'm a junkie!!! I'm a JUNKIE!!!!! I'm hooked and I can't live without Miss Heroin!!! I need her!!! I can't stand the pain anymore!! I've gotta get her back in my arms again!! Unnnnnnhhhhhhh!!! (Shouting) MISS HEROIN!!! MISS HEROIN!!! Miss Heroin....p..l..e..a..s..e c..o..m..e.. b..a..c.k. I need..you.....I....n..e..e..d.....you! I need you.

(Johnny lays on the floor and cries)

(Miss Heroin enters from rear stage with her back to the audience. She steps out of her silver outfit, revealing black leotards with skeleton bones painted in white fluorscent paint. She put on a fluorscent skull mask and turns around and faces the audience. The audience sees only a skeleton. She turn to Johnny, arms outstretched)

LIGHTS OUT:

MISS HEROIN

'Till death do us part, Johnny?

JOHNNY

Oh, my God, it's Miss Heroin! She's death!!!

I know what you are, Miss Heroin, but I don't care anymore! Just help me!! You've gotta help me, Miss Heroin. You're the only one that can help me!

I'll do anything you say....anything you want me to do!!

Just help me! Please! Please!!! Please help me!!!

(Johnny starts crying and groveling at her feet)

LIGHTS UP:

(Al Cohol, Reefers, LSD, Uppers, Downers and Cocaine rush out and joyfully gather around Miss Heroin)

REEFERS

Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!! We did it!! We did it!! We got him hooked at last!!

LSD

Congratulations, Miss Heroin, you did a fine job!

DOWNERS

You saved the day for us!!!

COCAINE

Vee vere all depending on you, darlink!

UPPERS

Ha, ha, ha!! Look at him!! Crying and sniveling like a cornered rat!!

AL COHOL

we knew if we couldn't hook him, you would!! Hic. We can always count on Miss Heroin to get the job done!

ALL DRUGS

Three cheers for Miss Heroin! RAH!!! RAH!!! RAH!!!

SONG: YOU GOTTA BELIEVE

AL COHOL

Come on, pal, lesh have 'nother lil' (hic) drink!!

REEFERS

Let's get high, baby!!! Get high!!

UPPERS

Hurry up!! What's taking you so long???

LSD

I told you I'd be back, John-John! Come on, let's fly!

DOWNERS

Come....on...an...join...us...John...ny!!

COCAINE

Darlink, von't you come vit us? Vee vill take care uff you.

(Drugs snicker and jeer at Johnny while Miss Heroin laughs)

JOHNNY

Go away!!! Go away!! All of you!! Leave me alone!!
Go away!! Go away!!! Go away!!! Go away!!!

LIGHTS DIM: (Drugs slowly drift offstage)

(Scene 6)

(Johnny has changed to the same clothes he opened with and is lying on the park bench sobbing hysterically, "Go away", when Ma enters onstage. She is dressed normally)

MA

Johnny!! Johnny!!! Wake up, son, you're having a night-mare!

JOHNNY

(Waking up and looking all around) They're gone!!!
They're all gone!! It was a dream!!! It was all just a dream!!! Oh, thank God, it was only a dream!
But it was so real!! Ma, it was horrible!! I drank some wine and fell asleep and dreamed about drugs!
They all came to life and tried to get me hooked on 'em!
There was Al Cohol, Reefers, LSD, Uppers and Downers and Cocaine!! Then I met Miss Heroin and fell in love with her! I had to kill poor old Mr. Johnson to get money for her! I even stole from you, Ma.
Oh, boy! Am I glad to be awake!

MA

Wall, it was only a dream, son. and although I'm sure it was a horrible experience, I hope you learned something from it. There are people all around us who have ruined

their lives through addiction to some type of drug.
Using drugs may seem like fun when you first start out, but it's not much fun when you have to keep using drugs continously just to keep your body functioning.
It's like I've been telling you all along, son, drugs can be a helpful friend or a cruel and powerful enemy.

JOHNNY

You're right, Ma! I sure learned a lot from that dream and I can tell you this much...from now on, I'm going to have a clean and healthy respect for all drugs!! I'll remember that dream for a long time! And just think, it all started from just a little problem!
Ma, how do you do it? I know you must have plenty of problems, but I never see you taking a lot of pills or drugs. How do you handle all your problems?

MA

God shows me the way, son, God shows me the way!

SONG: GOD SHOWS ME THE WAY

MA

By the way, son, this letter came for you in the mail today.

JOHNNY

(Opens the letter, reads it and shouts excitedly)
It's from the school, Ma!! They're giving me another scholarship, and this one is n't for sports! I can study anything I want to! You see that, Ma!!! I'm gonna be a doctor!!! YAHOO!!!!
(Jimmy and Mary enter onstage, he shows them the letter and they all sing and dance).

SONG YOU GOTTA BELIEVE

* * * THE END * * *